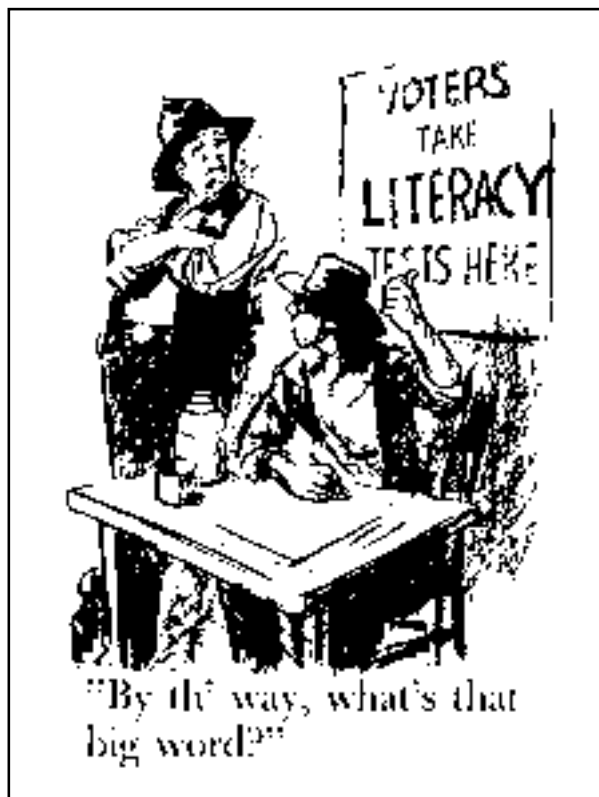


CHAPTER

6

Section 2
Voter Qualifications

Voter qualifications, such as literacy tests, were used for many years to disqualify African Americans from voting. The ability to read or write as a requirement to vote was finally eliminated by federal civil rights laws and court actions. Study the cartoon below and answer the following questions.



Bill Mauldin/St. Louis Post Dispatch

Interpreting Political Cartoons

1. What are the two people in the cartoon doing?
2. What period of history does this cartoon portray?
3. What is the irony of the caption?
4. **Demonstrating Reasoned Judgment** Literary tests were outlawed because they were used to eliminate African American voters, by giving them more difficult tests than those given to white voters. Would you favor the use of basic literacy tests if they were administered fairly?